United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 18, 2009

The Honorable Tom Harkin Chairman Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Michael Enzi Ranking Member Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Enzi:

We write to urge swift action on a three-year extension of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act that reflects the unified recommendations of more than 323 HIV/AIDS organizations. This lifesaving law funds an array of innovative and effective services that form the health care safety net for uninsured and underinsured Americans living with HIV/AIDS. We need to act to extend this landmark legislation before it expires on September 30, 2009, to ensure that vital services are available to people who desperately need them.

Americans living with HIV/AIDS and those who care for them will be best served by a Ryan White Program that is extended for three years and is amended to include the consensus recommendations of those on the frontlines of the epidemic. Timely extension of the legislation is essential to prevent uninsured and underinsured people living with HIV/AIDS from experiencing a gap in the delivery of life-saving medical and supportive services as we continue our work toward health care reform.

On behalf of our constituents living with HIV/AIDS who receive Ryan White services, we ask that you extend the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act before September 30, 2009. We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Rasit Mereny.

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